

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

I live in New Haven. The truth is that if my family had free health insurance, it would change a lot. As parents, we constantly think about the health of our children, that they have the right to good health, and that doctors provide them with care like their diagnosis. It would help me very much to have good health which is most important. Our priorities should be to have good clinics, good medical attention that isn't costly, be eligible for medications and treatment, and for none of this to have any costs. The uniquely largest barrier I have faced in getting pediatric services has been immigration status. Because we don't have immigration status, we aren't able to receive services, or receive them too late. They tell us, when you have an immigration status, then you can return and communicate with us, which is very difficult.

One time, I had a dental visit, because for school I needed a certificate, but because I didn't have medical insurance, the cleaning cost 150 dollars and I thought this was extremely costly and couldn't pay it. And when I called, explaining I didn't have insurance, they sent me letters telling me that because I didn't have any immigration status, I was ineligible for help.

The truth is that it seems to me that HUSKY is a good service for all children to be eligible for, without more difficult barriers that we continuously face, because medical care is so expensive. I hope that in the future, there are no more barriers to care, and that it is evident how important good health is.

I am in support of HB 6616.

Thank you for your time,
Anita